IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 2, as follows.

A computer system implementing DBR determines all end-to-end paths concurrently and optimally using the network topology, edge capacities, traffic demand matrix and possibly other constraints. A path design objective is to minimize the total bandwidth-length product. Furthermore, the optimization problem is subject to meeting the designated end-to-end demands, from sources to destinations, while not exceeding the edge capacities. If all connections cannot be established in the existing network due to the constraints implied by the fixed edges capacities, it is recommended that the problem ~~be to~~ be solved in two stages, as shown broadly in method 400 of FIG. 4. Method 400 is performed by a computer system, such as the traffic engineering server 110 shown in FIG. 1, in order to determine paths used later for routing connections. In Stage 1, step 410, a goal is to substantially maximize the carried demand in a network. The carried demand is the total amount of demand that can be carried in the network. It should be noted that substantially maximizing does not mean absolute maximization, although absolute maximization is beneficial. Thus, any technique that increases carried demand in a network is suitable for substantial maximization, although in general the closer to maximal the carried demand is, the better the overall result will be. In Stage 2, step 420, optimal routing is performed for the carried demand derived in Stage 1. These two stages may be formulated in different ways, as described in detail below